Representations of farmers in the Bureau of Agricultural Prices

1162. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister for Agriculture has recently announced that Government propose to increase farmers' representation in the Bureau of Agricultural prices; and

(b) if so, by when the above decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) A proposal to restructure the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices with, *inter alia*, increased farmer's representation is under the consideration of the Government.

Clearance to Polavaram Project

1163. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state by when the Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Polavaram is a multi-purpose project estimated to cost around Rs. 1300 crores. It envisages irrigation, hydel-power generation, navigation and water supply to Vizag Steel Plant. It also involves inter-State issues with Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

The project report is under various stages of technical examination in Central Water Commission, Central Electricity Authority and other concerned Departments of the Government of India. Clarifications are awaited from the State Government on various points viz., integrated working tables, sedimentation studies, navigation and inter-State aspects. Clearance from environmental angle and under Forest Conservation Act are also required. The clearance of the project would be considered after the above issues are resolved.

Groundnut Production

1164. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite huge expenditure on Research and Development under CLUSA or CIDA projects, productivity of groundnuts has not improved but actually declined;

(b) whether CLUSA or CIDA have submitted their reports/evaluation reports and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these reports have been sent to all the concerned States for implementation; and

(d) whether Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have fared better than Gujarat which received maximum CLUSA/CIDA aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The National Dairy Development Board is implementing Oilseeds Development Projects through State Level Growers Cooperative Federation in seven States with the assistance from the Cooperative League of USA (CLUSA) and Cooperative Union of Canada (CUC) through Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The productivity of groundnut in the project States is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below). The programmes have helped in promoting the productivity of the groundnut. However, there have been fluctuation in the productivity of the groundnut because of variations in seasonal conditions.

(b) The NDDB Vegetable Oil Project started in July 1979 was first evaluated in April 1981 by a CLUSA/USAID/NDDB. Further in June 1983 a joint evaluation team comprising representatives of Government of